

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-20, 22-39 and 41-46 are pending in the application. Claims 47 and 48 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and the independent claims of the application, claims 1, 20, 39 and 46, are amended to include the recitations of claim 48.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Incorporation of Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action (p. 26) indicates that claim 48 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of this indication, independent claims 1, 20, 39 and 46 are amended to include the recitations of claim 48, and are therefore allowable. In this regard, it is noted that claim 48 depended on claim 47, which recited "the controller is further configured to determine whether the communications terminal has been designated as a piconet edge terminal, and if so, enable the receiver to detect the pilot signal." In other words, claim 47 was an "intervening claim." However, since each of claims 1, 20, 39 and 46 already recites, in varying forms, operating as an edge terminal and detecting a pilot signal, including the recitations of claim 47 in claims 1, 20, 39 and 46 would be superfluous.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-16, 18-20, 22-25, 27-30, 32-35, 37-39, 41-43, 46 and 47 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-16, 18-20, 22-25, 27-30, 32-35, 37-39, 41-43, 46 and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gandolfo (US 7,184,767) in view of Choi (US 6,967,944). Claim 47 is canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection of the remaining claims is respectfully requested in view of the amendment of independent claims 1, 20, 39 and 46 to include allowable subject matter, as noted above.

III. Rejection of Claims 7, 12, 26, and 31 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 7, 12, 26, and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gandolfo in view of Choi, and further in view of Watanabe et al. (US 2002/0080855)

(“Watanabe”). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendment of independent claims 1 and 20 to include allowable subject matter.

IV. Rejection of Claims 17 and 36 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 17 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gandolfo in view of Choi, and further in view of Papasakellariou et al. (US 7,133,435) (“Papasakellariou”). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendment of independent claims 1 and 20 to include allowable subject matter.

V. Rejection of Claims 44 and 45 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 44 and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gandolfo in view of Choi, and further in view of Iacono et al. (US 2005/0176468) (“Iacono”). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendment of independent claims 1 and 20 to include allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [QUALP842US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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